

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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STATESVILLE AND SALISBURY TO LINK DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS TO HELP IN TIMES OF NEED, \$1.1 MILLION IN STATE GRANTS TO SUPPORT EFFORT

RALEIGH – Governing boards for the cities of Statesville and Salisbury have agreed on plans to connect their drinking water systems, enabling the transfer of up to 2 million gallons per day in cases of emergency water shortages.

Gov. Mike Easley, who announced the agreement today, said the project linking the two distribution systems would interconnect along Highway 70.

“The drought of 2002 clearly illustrated the need for our local and state governments to work closely together to make sure water systems have the flexibility to meet the needs of their residents,” Easley said. “This new line will provide much needed relief if and when drought conditions return.”

Under the inter-local agreement, Statesville will construct a 5.5-mile, 16-inch water transmission line and pump station at a cost of between \$1.8 million and \$2.4 million. Salisbury is to construct a 0.9-mile water transmission line and pump station at a cost of \$800,000.

The N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources will provide a \$800,000 grant, which will be split equally between the two cities, and the Rural Economic Development Center will provide \$300,000 for Statesville’s segment of the project.

The two cities are finalizing their agreements and preparing to authorize construction to begin on the project. The amount of allowable water transfer in cases of emergency may be increased as the cities expand their water treatment plants.

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